

Ser. No. 09/402,517

PATENT
RCA 88,469

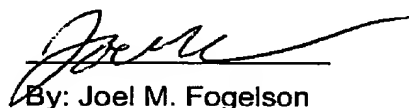
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Sampsell for rejecting Claims 1-18. In such, Applicants note that the priority date of Bryne of April 28, 1997 is after the priority date of the present application. The Bryne reference cannot be used as the basis of a proper 103(a) rejection because the priority date of the reference comes after the priority date of claimed subject matter.

For the reasons given above, Claims 1-18 overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), and Applicants request that the rejection of Claims 1-18 be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES E. HAILEY, ET AL.



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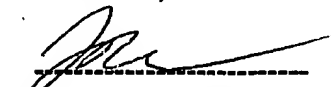
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March 17, 2003

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the Hon. Commissioner for Patents at the telephone number (703) 308-5359 on March 17, 2003


Joel M. Fogelson